



MI-CW2410

Michigan Crop Weather

June 14, 2010

Wet Weather Continues

Four days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending June 13, according to the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office. Precipitation varied from 0.31 inches in the central Lower Peninsula to 2.29 inches in the western Upper Peninsula. Average temperatures ranged from 1 degree below normal in the south central Lower Peninsula to 3 degrees below normal in the western Upper Peninsula. It was generally cool all week, and more rain kept fieldwork to a minimum. Farmers appreciated the rain in northern Michigan. “We finally received some much needed rain, which has improved all crops. Cattle are now having good pasture,” stated one reporter from the northern tip of Lower Peninsula. While farmers in the north Lower Peninsula welcomed the rain, other producers across Michigan would rather have missed it. Many fields across the state were saturated. It has been too wet to harvest hay, and conditions made spraying weeds and nitrogen application very difficult. “Another tough week to get fieldwork done and now armyworms are in the wheat. Some farmers will “mud” in the spray so they can save the wheat crop,” stated one farmer in southeast Michigan.

Field Crops

Rainy weather continued and hindered many field activities. **Wheat** was past flowering and was in early grain fill. The reports of powdery mildew, *Septoria*, Fusarium head blight (scab) and leaf rust continued. In the southeast, there was some lodging due to last week’s tornado. **Oats** and **barley** were heading out. Small grains were yellowing, in part due to maturity and the abundance of moisture received. Some oats in the southwest were in early grain fill. **Alfalfa** harvest was stalled due to rains and threats of rain. Alfalfa that was cut for dry hay and not baled in Central Michigan will be chopped back on fields due to the difficulty in baling. Quite a bit of haylage was harvested. Some hay fields were over-mature. Rains have been excellent for regrowth of first cuttings. **Sugarbeet** development continued and rows were filling quickly. **Corn** was in growth stages ranging from V4 to V6. Corn height was variable due to planting timing and some fields were showing signs of stress due to rains. Rains were impeding timely applications of nitrogen and herbicides for weed control. Seed corn planting was nearing completion with a little rust on lower leaves. **Soybean** planting continued as weather permitted. Fields were in growth stages ranging from V1 to V4. Emergence of planted fields was rapid. *Septoria* brown spot seemed to be a problem on soybeans in the southwest. Weed control on corn and soybeans will be necessary, given moisture levels. Planting of **drybeans** was stalled due to rains. Some fields in eastern Huron County were underwater. Much of the crop was still left to plant. Early planted fields should be scouted for root rot injury. There were several reports of insect and mollusk activity and or damage last week. Growers were encouraged to scout fields for the presence of these pests.

Soil moisture for week ending 06/13/10

Stratum	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Topsoil	1	2	56	41
Subsoil	1	4	66	29

Crop condition for week ending 06/13/10

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
All Hay	2	7	20	50	21
Barley	1	22	24	47	6
Corn	1	5	27	44	23
Oats	1	6	25	52	16
Pasture	1	4	20	50	25
Winter Wheat	1	3	20	51	25

Fruit

The rains last week brought about one to two inches, and soils remain wet in the southwest and southeast areas. Growing degree days were still about a week ahead of normal. **Apples** ranged from fruit size 20 to 21 mm in the northwest to 1.5 to 2 inches in the southwest. In the west central and southeast, some apple blocks with very low yield potential will not be harvested. There were higher than usual levels of powdery mildew in the Grand Rapids area. **Peaches** ranged from fruit size 1 to 1.5 inches in the southwest and southeast. European **plums** were between 17 and 25 mm in the northwest and southeast, and fruit was 1.5 inches long and 1 inch wide in the southwest. **Strawberries** were starting to color in the northwest. Harvest was underway in the southwest, southeast, and Grand Rapids areas. **Sweet cherries** were at fruit size 14 to 16 mm diameter in the northwest; fruit was beginning to color in the southwest, southeast, and west central. **Tart cherries** ranged from fruit size 12 mm in the northwest to 16 to 18 mm in the southeast, and fruit coloring has begun there. **Pears** were at 16 mm in diameter the northwest and an inch diameter in the southwest. **Blueberries** were at fruit size 11 to 12 mm in size in the southeast, with green fruit in the southwest. Cherry fruitworm flight continued, and cranberry fruitworm trap catch increased. **Grapes** had 10 to 16 inch shoots in the northwest; and bloom was ending on primary shoots in the southwest. Grape berry moths continue to be caught. Summer **raspberries** were in bloom in the northwest and harvest has begun in the Grand Rapids area.

Vegetables

Vegetables were progressing well. Humid weather, however, could cause many fungi to develop. **Asparagus** quality improved in Oceana County. The 2010 asparagus harvest was all but complete in southwest Michigan with growers applying postharvest herbicides and fertilizers. **Carrots** and **onions** were doing well on adequately saturated muck soils. Conversely, oversaturated onion and **radish** fields were showing signs of stress. **Pumpkin** and **fall squash** planting continued. Processing **winter squash** stands looked good and plantings of processing **zucchini** continued in Oceana County. **Tomatoes**, **snap beans**, **peppers**, and **eggplant** were progressing, and some fields were flowering. Warmer conditions are needed for growth. Other tomato, pepper and eggplant fields were being tied and staked. Harvest was underway for **sweet peas**, **greens**, **cabbage**, **yellow squash**, zucchini, and radishes. **Cucumbers** were in varying growth stages. In some fields, planting and transplanting continued. **Sweet corn** development continued and was doing well overall. Planting of some fields continued and emergence was good. Due to wet soils, **celery** transplanting has slowed. There were reports of bacterial leaf blight. **Red beets** looked good. Wirestem was observed on **cole crops** in the Macomb county area. There was some insect activity on bare ground squash, cole crops, sweet corn, celery and cabbage. Post transplanting growing conditions was good for **cantaloupe** and **watermelon**. Maturity levels of other **vine crops** varied. Fields that were not started under tunnels were also in need of sunnier days.

Crop progress for week ending 06/13/10

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	Inches	Inches	Inches	Inches
Corn, height	13	7	NA	NA
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
All hay, first cutting	62	47	46	55
Asparagus, harvested	97	86	71	82
Dry beans, planted	50	38	39	51
Dry beans, emerged	25	NA	10	12
Oats, headed	64	28	7	29
Potatoes, emerged	93	80	92	84
Soybeans, planted	91	87	92	96
Soybeans, emerged	80	68	73	86
Strawberries, harvested	34	14	11	22
Winter wheat, headed	97	92	82	93

Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 06/13/10 ¹												
Station	Temperature			Cumulative growing degree days ²			Precipitation					
	Maximum	Minimum	Departure from normal	2010	2009	Normal	This week	Last two weeks	Last four weeks	Since April 1	Normal	
											Since April 1	For month
Ironwood	70	37		579	381		2.30	3.23	3.50	6.14		
Marquette	70	36		549	296		2.30	3.23	3.50	6.14		
Stephenson	76	34		676	447		1.51	2.80	2.94	5.11		
Western UP	76	31	-3	583	349	447	2.29	3.37	3.62	6.19	7.05	3.61
Cornell	75	35		628	382		1.41	2.65	3.61	5.42		
Sault St Marie	75	41		603	293		1.64	2.96	3.07	5.22		
Eastern UP	75	33	-1	565	302	330	2.04	3.29	3.62	5.74	6.68	3.26
Beulah	78	42		697	473		0.75	1.59	1.63	7.91		
Lake City	77	37		687	469		1.02	3.39	3.77	9.51		
Old Mission	79	42		678	408		2.52	3.45	3.67	8.64		
Pellston	76	36		681	392		2.29	3.87	3.89	6.63		
Northwest	79	36	-1	663	415	529	1.57	2.82	2.99	7.79	6.57	3.03
Alpena	76	42		651	428		2.21	3.47	3.80	8.30		
Houghton Lake	77	36		730	462		0.95	3.80	4.11	7.81		
Rogers City	73	44		606	434		2.67	3.65	3.72	8.20		
Northeast	77	36	-2	689	446	501	1.71	3.80	4.11	8.14	6.51	2.90
Fremont	81	44		801	552		0.37	1.29	1.55	5.95		
Hart	82	40		730	497		0.55	1.15	1.43	5.39		
Muskegon	85	46		814	577		0.94	1.74	2.00	6.70		
West Central	85	38	-1	765	540	602	0.59	1.34	1.68	6.07	7.15	2.94
Alma	84	46		826	549		0.50	3.33	4.08	10.81		
Big Rapids	79	41		754	550		0.22	2.04	2.50	10.27		
Central	84	41	-1	790	547	647	0.31	2.49	2.91	8.90	7.17	3.36
Bad Axe	78	43		752	491		0.64	5.45	5.50	9.58		
Pigeon	82	43		757	481		0.37	2.72	3.11	7.36		
Saginaw	84	47		863	557		0.32	2.50	2.78	7.60		
Standish	80	40		736	501		0.53	4.85	5.28	10.41		
East Central	84	40	-2	747	508	627	0.39	3.50	3.78	8.95	6.44	3.08
Fennville	87	46		804	607		0.30	5.02	5.70	11.31		
Grand Rapids	83	50		916	672		0.78	3.21	3.82	11.00		
Holland	87	50		930	682		0.26	4.59	6.79	14.69		
South Bend, IN	87	49		923	756		0.82	2.74	3.91	10.74		
Watervliet	85	49		871	667		0.52	2.98	3.73	9.56		
Southwest	88	43	-2	877	678	695	0.54	2.95	3.76	9.78	7.90	3.55
Belding	83	44		807	570		0.61	3.49	3.87	9.90		
Coldwater	87	49		923	711		0.30	3.36	5.38	10.77		
Lansing	84	47		889	613		0.29	2.84	3.49	9.69		
South Central	87	44	-1	858	636	696	0.49	3.17	4.22	10.39	7.55	3.57
Detroit	87	50		961	719		0.16	3.71	4.97	10.53		
Flint	87	46		880	613		0.08	1.51	2.12	8.97		
Romeo	88	42		809	603		0.22	1.59	2.06	9.38		
Tipton	87	48		881	676		0.69	3.10	5.91	12.69		
Toledo, OH	88	48		998	750		0.54	2.86	5.11	12.60		
Southeast	89	42	0	888	680	665	0.45	2.43	4.12	10.70	7.45	3.36

¹ Issued by the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Commerce, Michigan State University Cooperative Extension Service, Agricultural Meteorologist, Department of Geography, and Crop Advisory Team ALERTS.

² Growing degree days (GDD) is the sum of daily mean temperatures minus 50 per day, 86 maximum and 50 minimum. The GDD is accumulative from April 1.